

Shaker Church Family Dwelling House  
(Shaker Great Stone House)  
(Shaker Enfield Center Second Dwelling)  
East side of State Rt. 4A, 4 mi. northwest of  
Enfield Center, overlooking Mascoma Lake  
Enfield  
Grafton County  
New Hampshire

HABS No. NH-75

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FORMERLY  
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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

## SHAKER GREAT STONE HOUSE

Location: Enfield Center vicinity (Town of Enfield, four miles northwest of Enfield Center on State Route 4A), Grafton County, New Hampshire.

Present Owner: La Sallette Fathers (c/o Father Viens), Enfield, N. H.

Present Occupant: The owners.

Present Use: Seminary and novitiate.

Brief Statement of Significance: Unusually large and heavy masonry structure for this area. The largest of several remaining buildings of a defunct Shaker colony. Characteristically Shaker in its lack of decoration and austerity.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

## A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Built and originally owned by the Shaker community of Enfield. Sold by the Shakers to the La Sallette Fathers in 1928.
2. Date of erection: 1846.
3. Architect, builder, suppliers: The Shaker community.
4. Notes on alterations and additions: Both exterior and interior are essentially unaltered.
5. Important Old views and references: General view of the entire community, c. 1904, copy in HABS.

Interview with Mrs. Nellie Pierce, Main Street, Enfield, New Hampshire, who has many old photographs, clippings and published articles on the Shakers.

- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: There were three "families" (a hierarchical, religious designation) of Shakers in the Enfield community. This structure housed the Church Family, the highest group, dedicated to general celibacy and a totally communal life. The North Family was

located just north of the Church Family and the South Family two miles south. The Shakers were well received in the community because of their high personal virtues of honesty, non-violence, consideration, etc. The community became very wealthy through the industry and modest demands of the members. The movement has become nearly extinct through its policy of celibacy, and there have not been any Shakers at Enfield since 1928.

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: Unusually large and heavy masonry structure in an area largely devoted to wooden building. It is characteristically Shaker in its regularity, lack of decoration, and austerity.
2. Condition of Fabric: Excellent.

### B. Technical Description of Exterior.

1. Overall size: Large rectangular building, four stories high plus cellar plus two stories in the gabled roof.
2. Foundations: Large cut stone foundations. Foundations within the cellar consist of large brick and stone arches.
3. Wall Construction: Range coursed ashlar masonry of constant height. Cynite stone from Canaan, New Hampshire, a granite-like stone without the mica content. Thin mortar joints reinforced with iron dowels.
4. Porches: One story, open, columned porch across one end.
5. Chimneys: Originally four brick chimneys. Only one enlarged one remains.
6. Openings
  - a. Doorways and doors: Six entrances, two on each side and one on each end. Paneled doors with side and transom lights set in simple, unrelieved, cut stone doorway.
  - b. Windows: 12/8 light double hung windows except for 8/8 light double hung windows in top story in attic. Unrelieved wood frames, stone lintels.

### 7. Roof

- a. shape, covering: Gable roof, slate covering.
- b. cornice, eaves: Simple moulded boxed eaves. Horizontal cornice returned short distance at gable ends.
- c. cupola: Two story wooden cupola. First story, square plan, enclosed with shingled walls, two 12/8 light double hung windows. Second story with circular balustrade with turned balusters around an open octagon supported by eight round columns covered with an octagonal, pitched roof, surmounted by a cross.

#### C. Technical Description of Interiors

- 1. Floor Plans: Complex interior plans. First floor has entrance hall at one end with rooms on both sides, large meeting room at the center of the building, kitchen, scullery, etc. to the rear. Upper floors have various plans to serve different functions, mainly for use as dormitories.
- 2. Stairways: Two stairways, at the front and rear of the building, both extend the full height of the building. Extremely simple stairs; straight runs; round hand rails; tapered, turned balusters. Hand rail runs continuously without meeting newel posts.
- 3. Flooring: Wood flooring, since 1928 covered with linoleum throughout.
- 4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster.
- 5. Doorways and doors: Paneled doors, some paneled jambs. Simple door frames. Some seven panel doors.
- 6. Trim: Very simple, moulded trim. Many built-in wood cupboards, drawers, peg strips, etc.
- 7. Hardware: Mostly original brass, some modern replacement.
- 8. Lighting: Electric.
- 9. Heating: Central. Originally the structure was probably heated with stoves.

#### D. Site

- 1. General setting and orientation: Gable end toward road

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faces east. Rural setting. This is the main building of a seminary complex for the La Sallette fathers. A modern chapel is now attached by an arcade.

2. Walks: Flagstone.
3. Landscaping: Semi-formal landscaping since 1928 with lawn, trees, flowers.

Prepared by Henry C. Edwards and  
Osmund R. Overby, Architects, National  
Park Service, 143 South Third Street,  
Philadelphia 6, Pa. - September 1959.

Shaker Church Family Dwelling House  
(Shaker Great Stone House, Shaker  
Enfield Center Second Dwelling)  
East side of State Route 4A, 3 miles  
south of U.S. Route 4, on Mascoma Lake  
Enfield Vicinity  
Grafton County  
New Hampshire

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Addendum to  
Shaker Great Stone House  
Enfield Center Vicinity  
Grafton County  
New Hampshire  
in 1959 HABS data pages

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20243

SHAKER CHURCH FAMILY DWELLING HOUSE  
(Shaker Great Stone House, Shaker Enfield Center Second Dwelling)

An Addendum to  
Shaker Great Stone House  
Enfield Center vicinity  
Grafton County  
New Hampshire  
in 1959 HABS data pages

Location: East side of State Route 4A, 3 miles south of U.S. Route 4, on Mascoma Lake, Enfield vicinity, Grafton County, New Hampshire.

USGS Mascoma Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator  
Coordinates: 18.730210.4833375.

Present Owner: The Brewfield Trust, Malden Trust Company, Malden, Massachusetts.

Present Occupant: The Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette, Immaculate Heart of Mary Province.

Present Use: Housing for the guest and lay residents of the La Salette Community at Enfield.

Significance: The United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing, known as the Shakers, organized a communal society at Enfield, New Hampshire in 1793. In time, the self-contained society acquired over 300 members and 3,000 acres of land, and developed numerous industries.

The Church Family Dwelling House, built between 1837 and 1841, was the largest dwelling built by the Shakers. Although built largely by the Shakers themselves, the society employed some help from the "world's people" in the design and construction of the building. The building's simple, Greek Revival design is attributed to the prominent American architect, Ammi Burnham Young, who later became Supervising Architect of the Treasury. Luther Kingsley, a Boston stonemason, was contracted to assemble the walls of locally quarried white granite. An unusual feature of this structure was the system of heavy timber trusses within the floors and walls of the third and fourth floors. These trusses supported the upper floors to allow a second floor meeting room to extend the full width of the building, 54'-4", uninterrupted by columns.

The dwelling house was the most distinctive structure at Enfield. It was one of the earliest stone structures de-

signed by Young and was probably the largest stone building north of Boston when constructed. Widely acclaimed after its completion in 1841, it represents a major undertaking for its time.

## PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

### A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Construction began in the spring of 1837 and the dwelling was dedicated and occupied June 8, 1841. There is an 1837 date stone in the west gable end.
2. Architect: The dwelling house design is attributed to Ammi Burnham Young, although this is not documented. The attribution is based on both proximity of his home and stylistic characteristics.

Young (1798-1874) was from the neighboring town of Lebanon, New Hampshire. No record of any formal training has been found, but his father, Samuel Young, was also a builder. Young designed a structure at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, as early as 1828. He was active in his home town area at least until the late 1830s, and worked primarily in the Greek Revival style.

It was unusual for the Shakers to seek outside help in the design and construction of a structure, but it was to be a large, monumental building. Young was probably at work on the State House in Montpelier, Vermont, when the Shaker dwelling was started in 1837.

Young's most well-known design was the Boston Customhouse built between 1837 and 1847 with the assistance of Isaiah Rogers. On September 29, 1852, Young was appointed Supervising Architect of the Office of Construction of the Treasury Department in Washington, D.C. (Young was actually Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department in 1852; it was not until 1853 that a separate division called the Construction Branch of the Treasury Department was established.) He held the position until 1860. In those eight years Young designed numerous customs houses, courthouses, and post offices.

3. Original and subsequent owners: The Shaker community at Enfield owned the dwelling house from its construction until



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1928. On January 3, 1928 Arthur Bruce and Irving Greenwood, Trustees for the United Society of Shakers of Enfield sold the property to the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette. Although La Salette still occupies the property, it is now owned by the Brewfield Trust, Malden Trust Company, Malden, Massachusetts. The complete legal description can be found in the Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Grafton County Courthouse, Woodsville, New Hampshire.

4. Builders, contractors, suppliers: Although uncommon, the Enfield Shakers employed outside help for the construction of the dwelling house. Luther Kingsley, a Boston stonemason, was contracted for the stonework in the summer of 1837. David Tillson of Boston was contracted to lay the slate roof. The Enfield Shakers quarried and cut their own stone and finished the woodwork themselves.
5. Original plan and construction: The Church Family Dwelling House has had few exterior alterations. The interior has been altered to fit the needs of the present occupants, yet it still functions as dormitory space so the basic plan is evident.

The large dwelling house was built to provide living quarters for all the male and female members of the Enfield Church Family. The dwelling house has four stories with two attic stories and a full basement. Each floor is symmetrically arranged around a central east-west hall. The male Shakers, known as Brethren, lived in the west half towards the agricultural land and machine shops, while the female Shakers, the Sisters, lived in the east half towards the laundry and dairy.

The total space of the basement, first floor, and both attic stories were used by the Brethren and Sisters, although each had a separate staircase for access. The basement was used for food preparation and storage, including a smoke room and bake room. The first floor was used for cooking and contained the large communal dining room. There were probably separate waiting rooms where the Brethren and Sisters gathered to march into meals. The Brethren and Sisters ate at separate tables, in silence. The two attic stories were used primarily for clothes and fabric storage. Many of the original built-in cabinets and peg rails remain.

The second floor contained some sleeping rooms, known as retiring rooms, at each end for the Brethren and Sisters. In

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the center of the floor was the large communal meeting room used by both the Brethren and Sisters for daily worship. The separate community meetinghouse was used for the Sabbath and special occasions. A truss system concealed in the floor, ceiling, and central walls of the third and fourth stories allowed the meeting room to be an open space uninterrupted by columns. This provided the space needed for the dancing which occurred during Shaker worship. Columns were added to this room in the twentieth century.

The third and fourth floors were for sleeping. The Brethren and Sisters occupied the same floor together even though the Shakers were celibates. There was no physical partition, only an invisible dividing line running north-south to separate them. Each retiring room was approximately 20' square and probably housed four to six people.

6. Alterations and additions: The dwelling house has been altered, mainly in the interior, but most of these changes are reversible.

The cupola was rebuilt in the 1840s. Three of the four original chimneys were removed, and the remaining chimney is a 1930s replacement. The cornice is in good repair, but the original gutters have been removed. The granite splash basins remain in place at three of the four corners of the building.

The six original doorways have been variously altered. Originally, they were uniformly designed. The opening was framed by a massive granite lintel and posts. The recessed doorway consisted of a large paneled door with side lights and a transom surrounded by a heavy molded architrave. Each entrance had granite steps, iron handrails, and foot scrapers, which have mostly been removed. The doorways on the south side and west end are the least altered. The east entrance originally had two doors, but has been changed to one. The granite steps to this entrance have been removed. All but two of the six entrances now have modern screen doors.

A few of the original twelve-over-eight-light window sash have been altered and most of the windows now have aluminum screens. Most of the cellar windows on the north side have been filled with stone.

The interior has undergone extensive alterations on the lower floors, while the upper floors retain many original features.

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Originally the cellar had only two enclosed rooms used for smoking meats and baking. It has since been divided and partitioned into several smaller rooms used for storage. The slate flooring was originally laid in a decorative, geometric pattern. It has been partially covered with concrete. The original cherry staircases remain, as do some examples of Shaker woodwork, plaster, and hardware. The southwest room served as a coal room at one time, but this was after the Shakers.

The first floor has been extensively altered, yet some of the original Shaker features remain. Many of these features have been concealed by modern wall, floor, and ceiling coverings. The original floor plan included the central dining room, but subsequent alterations to the dining room have destroyed the symmetry of the first floor plan. The northwest wall remains unchanged, but the southwest wall, originally identical to the northwest wall, has been replaced recently. The east wall was paneled in the 1960s. Some original paneling and built-in cupboards remain in the dining room, but the original peg rails, plaster ceiling, wooden floors, and shelves along the east wall have been covered or removed. The west end of the first floor originally had two large rooms which are now partitioned into four bedrooms. The room in the southwest corner has been completely remodeled, while original paneling, moldings, peg rails, and built-in cabinets remain in the northwest room. The east end of the first floor presently has a kitchen, freezer, and storage room. The kitchen has been completely remodeled and the original Shaker woodwork and equipment removed or covered by modern materials. The southeast room has also been altered. The black cherry hand-rail on the east staircase has been replaced.

The second floor has not been as extensively altered as the first. This floor is arranged symmetrically around a large central meeting room and a central hall running east-west. The meeting room remains close to original condition. Originally a clear-span space, columns were added in the 1960s. Linoleum tile now covers the floor, and steam radiators have been added. The retiring rooms, and adjacent storage rooms, which flank the meeting room in each corner of the building have been divided and altered. A few original peg rails and built-in cabinets remain. One storage room has been converted to a bathroom.

The third floor plan originally consisted of a central hall with four large retiring rooms and two storage rooms on each

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side. The storage rooms occurred between each pair of retiring rooms. The northeast, southeast, and southwest retiring rooms have been divided and three of the four storage rooms have been converted to bathrooms. Partitions between the two northwest retiring rooms and their storage room have been removed, creating one large space. Three retiring rooms remain their original size. Most of the Shaker woodwork remains, including excellent examples of built-in cabinets, peg rails, hardware, and paneling. The walls were originally white-washed plaster and have had only a few coats of paint. The floors have been covered with linoleum.

The fourth floor plan closely resembles the third floor. Again, the large retiring rooms have been divided and much original interior woodwork remains. The northeast retiring room has been converted to a bathroom.

The two attic stories have undergone the least amount of change. On the fifth floor the two large retiring rooms at the west end have been divided and the western staircase enclosed. Most original interior features remain, possibly including some original paint, on both attic stories.

In 1929 the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette built a church to the north of the dwelling house. The church and dwelling were connected by a covered passageway.

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

The United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing, known as the Shakers, was a religious sect established in America in 1774 when its founder, Ann Lee, arrived in New York. Ann Lee and her followers traveled through New England between 1781 and 1783 converting new members. The first communal society was formed at Mount Lebanon, New York in 1787. The sect flourished in the nineteenth century during a period in American religious history known as the Second Great Awakening. Shaker communities were organized as far west as Kentucky and as far south as Florida.

The Shakers believed in celibacy, separation from the outside world, common ownership of property, and confession of sins. They were devoted to simplicity, honesty, and hard work, and, because of these, were prosperous and successful.

Missionaries from Mount Lebanon converted several families in the Mascoma Valley of New Hampshire in 1782. They met in the home of

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James Jewitt for ten years until they decided to consolidate their holdings and purchased land on Mascoma Lake in 1792. A meetinghouse was erected first, in 1793, then a dwelling house for the society in 1794. Barns, shops, and mills were soon built to support the community. By 1815, Enfield had three "families," the Church, North and South families. Each family was an independent economic unit with its own dwelling house and service buildings. The meetinghouse and ministry's house and shop, as well as some other service buildings, were shared by all the families of a community.

In time, the society became more than self-sufficient, actually prosperous, with over 300 members and 3,000 acres of land. Enfield developed numerous industries and prospered through most of the nineteenth century. Farming was their principal industry and they maintained excellent herds of cattle. Extensive gardens for seeds and medicinal herbs were planted. It has been suggested that Enfield initiated the practice of packaging seeds for sale, a practice which was adopted by the other Shaker communities. Herbs were dried in large quantities at Enfield and shipped to pharmaceutical companies. Textiles were also produced at Enfield. The Shakers developed these industries for their own use and for sale to "the world." The high quality of the Shaker products provided a good income for the community and gained the respect of the outside world.

The Church Family Dwelling House, built between 1837 and 1841, was the most distinctive structure at Enfield. It was the largest dwelling built by the Shakers. Although built largely by the Shakers themselves, the society employed some help from the "world's people" in the design and construction of the building, which was unusual for the Shakers. The building's simple, monumental, Greek Revival design is attributed to the prominent American architect, Ammi Burnham Young, who later became the Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury. The dwelling was one of the earliest stone structures designed by Young and was one of the largest stone buildings north of Boston when it was constructed. It represents a major undertaking for its time, and was widely acclaimed after its completion in 1841.

The Enfield community, like most Shaker communities, began to decline towards the end of the nineteenth century. In 1923, the seven remaining Enfield Shakers moved to the Canterbury, New Hampshire community. The Enfield property was sold to the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette, in 1928, who continued to use the stone dwelling house as living quarters.

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Withey, Henry F. and Elsie Rathburn Withey. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased). Los Angeles: New Age Publishing Company, 1956.

Prepared by William Hosley  
University of Delaware,  
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University of Vermont  
Summer 1978

Deborah S. Burns  
Architectural Historian  
Historic American Buildings  
Survey  
September 1979

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The Church Family Dwelling House is the largest dwelling house built by the Shakers. Although much of the work was done by the Shakers themselves, they employed some outsiders to assist with the design and construction. This use of help from the "world's people" was unusual among the Shakers. The design was typically Shaker being simple and functional, designed to house the entire Church Family. The masonry is exceptionally fine and many original interior features remain. An interesting truss system allows the meeting room to span 54'-4" uninterrupted by columns.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The structure is rectangular, 58'-1" (six-bay west and east elevations) by 100'-2 1/2" (twelve-

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C. Sources of Information:

1. Old views: The photographic collections of Mr. Robert Leavitt of Lebanon, New Hampshire and the La Salette community are an excellent resource for the Enfield Shaker society and the Church Family Dwelling House.

2. Bibliography:

a. Primary and unpublished sources:

Blinn, Henry, Historical Notes. Unpublished manuscript on the history of the Enfield Shakers written by one of the Elders in 1897. Original is at Case Western Reserve, Cleveland, Ohio. A copy can be found in the Shaker Library, Enfield, New Hampshire.

A Historical Narrative of the Rise and Progress of the United Society of Shakers, Enfield, N.H., 1858. An unpublished and unsigned manuscript written at Enfield by an Enfield Shaker.

An unpublished and unsigned ledger documenting the construction of the Church Family Dwelling House. It was found in the attic of the dwelling by a La Salette Brother. The original is now kept for La Salette by the New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, New Hampshire.

b. Secondary and published sources:

Cummings, Henry. "The Rise and Decline of the Shaker Society," The Enfield Advocate, March 23, April 6 and 20, and July 20, 1906. A series of articles by a man who had been a Shaker for forty years. He was an Elder when he left the Shakers in 1887.

Elkins, Harvey. Fifteen Years in the Senior Order of Shakers. Hanover, New Hampshire: Dartmouth Press, 1853.

Hamlin, Talbot. Greek Revival Architecture in America. Oxford University Press, 1944.

National Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Three Centuries of Custom Houses. National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, 1972.

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bay south and north elevations). There is an original porch across the east elevation which projects 12'-4". There are four stories with two attic stories and a partially exposed basement.

2. Foundations: Squared granite randomly laid below grade, ranged granite above grade with watertable; walls approximately 3' thick.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Ranged, rock-faced, New Hampshire white granite with dressed quoins. Granite coping occurs beneath boxed cornice on north and south elevations.
4. Structural system, framing: Masonry bearing walls with heavy timber interior framing. First floor joists are supported by two granite and brick arcades extending the length of the basement. A truss system concealed within the floor, ceiling and central walls of the third and fourth stories supports the upper stories of the structure. This system allows a second-story meeting room to run the full width of the building (54'-4") without the need for interior supporting columns (columns were added in the 20th century). Heavy timber members are joined with pegged mortise and tenon joints. Framing system with ridge beam supports roof.
5. Porches, stoops, bulkheads: An original porch extends across the east elevation. Six granite columns support the shed roof. The porch floor is of large trapezoidal-shaped slabs of slate (similar to basement floor).

Five of the six entrances retain their original granite stoops. The stoop to the porch on the east elevation has been removed. A frame entrance shed has been added on the stoop of the left entrance on the north elevation.

A concrete bulkhead was added near the left entrance on the south elevation early in the 20th century for coal deliveries.

6. Chimneys: There is one brick chimney on the north roof slope added in the 1930s. Originally there were four chimneys, each serving two flues.
7. Openings:
  - a. Doorways and doors: There is one original entrance to the basement on the east elevation below the porch. The doorway is framed with granite pilasters and extended lintel.



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The entrance on the west elevation, the Brethren's entrance, is framed by granite pilasters and extended lintel. The recessed door has a low panel with glass above and is framed by side lights and a transom. There is a second inner door which forms a vestibule. The inner door with side lights and transom is surrounded by an architrave on both the interior and exterior faces. A cast-iron threshold is screwed onto the stone sill.

At the center of the east elevation there is a double entrance, the Sisters' entrance. The doorway is flanked by granite pilasters with an extended lintel supported on the pilasters and a center granite post. The granite post has bull-nosed edges. Recessed beyond the masonry wall is a paneled wooden wall with a paneled door on the left side and a window (replacing the original door) on the right side.

There are two entrances on both the north and south elevations. Each door is located in the third bay from the corner. These entrances are similar to the entrance on the west elevation, with the exception of the right door of the north elevation. This entrance has only the inner door recessed beyond the masonry wall. The inner door is framed by side lights and a transom, and is surrounded by an architrave like the other entrances, but there is a double door set in the frame. The two doors are of unequal size. The left door of the north elevation has been altered. Only the masonry opening and stoop are intact. A frame entrance shed has been added.

- b. Windows: The basement windows vary in size as the ground slopes, but all have the same molding. Some basement windows have been removed and the openings filled with granite blocks.

All windows of the first through fifth stories are identical. The windows are twelve-over-eight-light double-hung sash with simple moldings. Each window has a simple granite sill and lintel. The sixth-story windows are of similar design, but are only eight-over-eight lights. The interior window detailing varies from floor to floor. The two windows in the cupola are twelve-over-eight-light double-hung sash.

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8. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: Gable roof covered with slate; shed roof on east porch covered with asphalt shingles.
- b. Cornice, eaves: Boxed wooden cornice with stone coping along eaves, cornice returns on west and east gable ends. Similar cornice on east porch. All gutters have been removed, however, granite splash basins remain at three corners of the building.
- c. Cupola: Octagonal wooden belfry on rectangular base covered with slate at center of roof. Polygonal roof supported by circular posts. Belfry surrounded by balustrade. Cross has been added on top of belfry.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The floor plans are based on a bi-axial symmetry established by a central hall running the length of the building (east-west) and an imaginary line through the center of the building (north-south) dividing the Brethren's side from that of the Sisters. This divides the building into four quadrants.
  - a. Basement: There are two granite and brick arcades which run the length of the basement forming the equivalent of the central hall found on the other floors. At the centers of the northeast and southeast quadrants are brick enclosures (rooms), the southeast enclosure served as a smoke room for meats, and the northeast enclosures possibly were used for cold storage. The northeast enclosures also provided support for the ovens and hearths located in the kitchen above. Numerous partitions divide the basement into various storage and utility rooms.
  - b. First floor: The first floor has been extensively altered, but its use for kitchen and dining facilities has remained unchanged. There is a central hall running from the west and east entrances into a central dining room. The west entrance was used by the Brethren, while the east entrance was for the Sisters. There are separate staircases for each located at the appropriate end of the hall. The central dining room runs the full width of the structure. This room served as the Shakers' dining room also. Four original maple support columns and many original built-

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in cabinets remain in the dining room. There is a modern kitchen located in the northeast quadrant, part of the location of the original Shaker kitchen. The other areas of the floor are now divided into bedrooms and storage rooms. The windows on this floor have splayed openings with paneled reveals with pocket shutters divided for upper and lower sash.

- c. Second floor: The west and east stairways rise to a central hall on the second floor which leads into a large central meeting room which occupies the full width of the building. A system of trusses were hidden within the floors and walls of the third and fourth floors. These trusses supported the upper floors to allow the second floor meeting room to extend the full width of the building, 54'-4", uninterrupted by columns. Four steel columns were added in the twentieth century. On either side of the west and east halls are bedrooms created by modern partitions, storage rooms and a bathroom. The windows of the second floor have paneled reveals like the first floor but the openings are not splayed. The windows have bi-fold shutters set in pockets in the reveals.
- d. Third and fourth floors: The arrangement of "retiring rooms" on the third and fourth floors was similar. A central hall extended the entire length of the building. On both sides of the hall in each of the building's four quadrants were two "retiring rooms," approximately 20' square, separated by a service room. Originally there were eight "retiring rooms" and four service rooms on each floor, but many of the rooms have been divided in half for smaller bedrooms. Most of the original built-in cabinets remain. The two "retiring rooms" and service room in the northeast quadrant of the third floor have been converted into a lounge with the walls of the service room removed. The three other service rooms on the third floor have been converted into bathrooms. The northeast quadrant of the fourth floor has been converted into a bathroom. Windows on the third and fourth floors have splayed reveals with bi-fold pocket shutters.
- e. Fifth floor: The fifth floor has a central I-shaped hall with a partition across the center. There is a door in the partition to join the west and east sides. On either side of the central hall are two large storage rooms. At

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the east end of the building are two more large storage rooms possibly used for clothes storage or sewing rooms. At the west end are two storage rooms which have been divided into four bedrooms. Each corner room has a series of built-in cabinets and access to a storage space beneath the roof slope. The fifth floor windows have splayed reveals with bi-fold pocket shutters.

- f. Sixth floor: There is a central hall with long, narrow storage rooms on either side. There are stairs leading to the belfry in the central hall. Sixth floor windows have splayed reveals with bi-fold pocket shutters.
2. Stairways: There are two symmetrical staircases placed on the north wall of the central hall which run from the basement to the sixth floor. The stairway is open from the first to fifth floors. The stairs consist of a straight run of treads between floors. The simple black cherrywood railing is continuous from the first through fifth floor on the west stairway and from the second through fifth on the east stairway. A modern railing replaced the original railing from the first to second floor. The stair rail from the fifth to sixth floor is different, the end of each rail turns to form a circle.

On the east wall of the sixth floor hall an L-shaped stairway leads to a catwalk surrounding three sides of the rectangular base of the cupola. A straight run of steps leads from the catwalk to the roof hatch of the belfry.

3. Flooring: The basement floor consists of carefully fitted trapezoidal pieces of slate. The east half of the basement flooring has been covered with concrete. The first through sixth floors have pine board flooring. This is covered with linoleum or vinyl tile except on the sixth floor.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: The basement walls are randomly laid granite blocks on the exterior foundation walls and central arcades. The basement partitions are of exposed and plastered brick, painted fiberboard and painted wooden boards. The walls of the first through sixth floors were originally painted plaster. Many original plaster walls remain, but the altered walls and new partitions exhibit a variety of wall coverings. The new partitions are of fiberboard, drywall, plaster, and tongue and groove vertical boards. The storage rooms on the fifth floor possibly retain the original wall and trim paint.

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5. Doorways and doors: The original doors are made of pine by the Enfield Shakers. The doors are paneled and recessed in paneled reveals.
6. Trim: The original interior woodwork was designed and constructed by the Enfield Shakers. There are numerous built-in cabinets, cupboards and drawers throughout the structure. The dining room on the first floor has a series of cupboards and cabinets along the west wall. Each "retiring room" on the second, third and fourth floors has an arrangement of built-in paneled cabinets and drawers surrounding the doorway. Also in each "retiring room" was a chest of drawers with cupboards built into the wall shared with the service room. The attic stories have many built-in cabinets for storage. Most of these built-in features remain, although some have been altered.

Peg rails remain in nearly every room. Most have been altered by either the removal or replacement of pegs or by the addition of an astragal molding to cover the peg holes. The fifth floor storage rooms flanking the central hall retain their original three rows of peg rails running continuously around the walls. Some original walnut pegs remain.

The baseboards and window and door moldings are of simple design.

7. Hardware: Some original door hinges and lock sets remain, as well as some wooden door knobs.
8. Mechanical equipment: Steam radiators are located beneath the windows on the first through fifth floors. There are two boilers located in the basement; the southern one is from 1930, the northern one from 1954. Originally the building was heated by wood-burning stoves. There was one stove per "retiring room" which vented through one of eight flues. The building has modern incandescent and fluorescent lighting. It is believed that some textile production took place on the fifth floor. Reportedly, the lead piping used to carry water under pressure to the fifth floor to power the textile machinery was removed from the accessible attic locations.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The building is oriented towards State Route 4A on an east-west axis. A short distance

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to the west, across State Route 4A, are hills and approximately 300' to the east is Lake Mascoma.

2. Landscape: A modern circular drive approaches the west elevation from State Route 4A. The building is surrounded by a yard with some statuary and vegetable gardens nearby.
3. Other structures: To the north of the dwelling house there is a two-story chapel of concrete and granite dating from 1929. An enclosed colonade of concrete and granite, also built in 1929, joins the chapel to the northeast corner of the dwelling house.

There are other buildings which remain from the Shaker Church Family's complex near the dwelling house: the Cow Barn, Calf Barn, Dairy and Laundry, Brethren's East Shop, Brethren's West Shop, Ministry's Shop, Machine Shop, and Hay Barn. There are some twentieth-century buildings in the complex as well.

The remaining buildings of the Shaker North Family are located north of the Church Family along State Route 4A. These buildings include: the Office, Barn, Cow Barn, Sheep Barn, and Laundry and Dairy.

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Project Supervisor  
Historic American  
Buildings Survey  
July 1978

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Architectural Historian  
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Buildings Survey  
July 1978

### PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) in cooperation with the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette, Enfield Community, and the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Office. The recording project was completed under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS, and Kenneth L. Anderson, Principal Architect. The Church

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Family Dwelling House and Cow Barn were measured and drawn during the summer of 1978 by project supervisor Patrick M. Burkhardt (HABS Washington office); project foreman Lisa L. Becker (University of Notre Dame); and student assistant architects Janet L. Hochuli (The Cooper Union) and Robert G. Krebs (Harvard University). Employed by the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette, Preston Maynard (University of Vermont) and William Hosley (University of Delaware, Winterthur Program) prepared the historical data for both the dwelling house and barn and the architectural data for the barn during the summer of 1978. The architectural data for the dwelling house was prepared by Mr. Burkhardt and Deborah S. Burns, an architectural historian from the HABS Washington office. The historical and architectural data was edited and expanded in September 1979 by Mrs. Burns. Photographs were taken in June 1978 by Jack E. Boucher for HABS.

ADDENDUM TO  
SHAKER CHURCH FAMILY DWELLING HOUSE  
(SHAKER GREAT STONE HOUSE)  
(SHAKER ENFIELD CENTER SECOND DWELLING)  
State Route 4A  
Enfield Vicinity  
Grafton County  
New Hampshire

HABS No. NH-75

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